GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:584
ANSWERED ON:16.05.2007
PESTICIDE RESIDUES IN SOFT DRINKS
Jogi Shri Ajit;Satheedevi Smt. P.

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Group of Experts constituted to suggest the extent of maximum residue limits of pesticides in cold drinks has presented its report;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the soft drink producers are violating the maximum limit as suggested by the said Group/Committee;

(d) if so, whether the Government is contemplating to take any penal action against the said companies; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 584 FOR .16.5.2007

The Group of experts constituted by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has recommended maximum limits of 1 ppb for individual pesticides a-HCH, p-HCH, Y-HCH, 8-HCH, DDT-R, Chlorpyriphos, Malathion and Endosulfan. The samples of soft drinks checked by the Committee are within these prescribed limits.

The water used for producing carbonated water has to conform to the standards prescribed for packaged drinking water under Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Rules, 1955.

Samples of soft drinks checked by the Ministry in 2006 at various Central and State Labs were within these prescribed limits.

At present the Maximum Residues Limits for pesticides in carbonated water has not been prescribed under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955. Any regulatory action regarding soft drinks may be taken in this regard only after the limits for pesticides are prescribed under PFA Rules.